Numb. CLIX.

The GUARDIAN.

Præsens vel imo tollere de gradu
Mortale corpus, vel superbos
Vertere funeribus triumphos. Hor.

Saturday, September 12. 1713.

SIR,

'HAVING read over your Paper of 'Tuesday last, in which you recommend the Pursuits of Wisdom and 'Knowledge to those of the Fair Sex, 'who have much Time lying upon their Hands, 'and among other Motives make Use of this, 'That several Women, thus accomplished, have 'raised themselves by it to considerable Posts of 'Honour and Fortune, I shall beg leave to give 'you an Instance of this Kind, which many now 'living can testify the Truth of, and which I can 'assure you is Matter of Fact.

'About twelve Years ago I was familiary acquainted with a Gentleman, who was in a Post 'that brought him a yearly Revenue, sufficient to 'live very handsomly upon. He had a Wife, and 'no Child but a Daughter, whom he bred up, as I 'thought, too high for one that could expect no 'other Fortune than such a one as her Father could 'raise out of the Income of his Place; which as 'they managed it was scarce sufficient for their ordinary Expences. Miss *Betty* had always the best Sort of Cloaths, and was hardly allowed to keep Company but with those above her Rank; so that it was no Wonder she grew proud and haughty towards those she look'd upon as her Inferiors. There liv'd by them a Barber who had a Daughter about Miss's Age, that could speak *French*, had read several Books at her leisure Hours, and was a perfect Mistress of her Needle and in all Kinds of Female Manufacture. She was at the same time a pretty, modest, witty Girl. She was hired to come to Miss an Hour or two every Day, to talk *French* with her and teach her to Work, but Miss always treated her with great Contempt; and when *Molly* gave her any Advice, rejected it with Scorn.

'About the same time several young Fellows made their Addresses to Miss *Betty*, who had indeed a great deal of Wit and Beauty, had they not been infected with so much Vanity and Self-conceit. Among the rest was a plain sober young Man, who loved her almost to Distraction. His Passion was the common Talk of the Neighbourhood, who used to be often discoursing of Mr. *T*—'s Angel, for that was the Name he always gave her in ordinary Conversation. As his Circumstances were very indifferent, he being a younger Brother, Mrs. *Betty* rejected him with Disdain. Insomuch that the young Man, as is usual among those who are crossed in Love, put himself aboard the Fleet, with a Resolution to seek his Fortune, and forget his Mistress. This was very happy for him, for in a very few Years, being concerned in several Captures, he brought home with him an Estate of about twelve thousand Pounds.

'Mean while Days and Years went on, Miss liv'd high and learnt but little, most of her time being employed in reading Plays and practising to dance, in which she arrived at great Perfection. When of a sudden, at a Change of Ministry, her Father lost his Place, and was forced to leave *London*, where he could no longer live upon the Foot he had formerly done. Not many Years after I was told the poor Gentleman was dead, and had left his Widow and Daughter in a very desolate Condition, but I could not learn where to find them, tho' I made what Inquiry I could; and I must own, I immediately suspected their Pride would

'not

(Price Two Pence.)

not ſuffer them to be ſeen or relieved by any of their former Acquaintance. I had left enquiring after them for ſome Years, when I happen'd, not long ago, as I was asking at a Houſe for a Gentleman I had ſome Buſineſs with, to be led into a Parlor by a handſome young Woman, who I preſently fancy'd was that very Daughter I had ſo long ſought in vain. My Suſpicion increaſed, when I obſerved her to bluſh at the Sight of me, and to avoid, as much as poſſible, looking upon, or ſpeaking to me: Madam, ſaid I, are not you Mrs. ſuch a one? At which Words the Tears ran down her Cheeks, and ſhe would fain have retired without giving me an Anſwer; but I ſtopp'd her, and being to wait a while for the Gentleman I was to ſpeak to, I reſolved not to loſe this Opportunity of ſatisfying my Curioſity. I could not well diſcern by her Dreſs, which was genteel tho' not fine, whether ſhe was the Miſtreſs of the Houſe, or only a Servant: But ſuppoſing her to be the firſt, I am glad, Madam, ſaid I, after having long inquired after you, to have ſo happily met with you, and to find you Miſtreſs of ſo fine a Place. Theſe words were like to have ſpoiled all, and threw her into ſuch a Diſorder, that it was ſome time before ſhe could recover herſelf; but as ſoon as ſhe was able to ſpeak, Sir, ſaid ſhe, you are miſtaken; I am but a Servant. Her Voice fell in theſe laſt Words, and ſhe burſt again into Tears. I was ſorry to have occaſioned in her ſo much Grief and Confuſion, and ſaid what I could to Comfort her. Alas, Sir, ſaid ſhe, my Condition is much better than I deſerve, I have the kindeſt and beſt of Women for my Miſtreſs. She is Wife to the Gentleman you come to ſpeak withall. You know her very well, and have often ſeen her with me. To make my Story ſhort, I found that my late Friend's Daughter was now a Servant to the Barber's Daughter, whom ſhe had formerly treated ſo diſdainfully. The Gentleman, at whoſe Houſe I now was, fell in Love with *Moll*, and being Maſter of a great Fortune, married her, and lives with her as happily, and as much to his Satisfaction as he could deſire. He treats her with all the Friendſhip and Reſpect poſſible, but not with more than her Behaviour and good Qualities deſerve. And 'twas with a great deal of Pleaſure I heard her Maid dwell ſo long upon her Commendation. She informed me, that after her Father's Death, her Mother and ſhe lived for a while together in great Poverty. But her Mother's Spirit could not bear the Thoughts of asking Relief of any of her own, or her Husband's Acquaintance; ſo that they retired from all their Friends, till they were Providentially diſcover'd by this new married Woman, who heaped on 'em Favours upon Favours. Her Mother died ſhortly after, who, while ſhe lived, was better pleaſed to ſee her Daughter a Beggar, than a Servant. But being freed by her Death, ſhe was taken into this Gentlewoman's Family, where ſhe now lived, tho' much more like a Friend or a Companion, than like a Servant.

I went home full of this ſtrange Adventure, and about a Week after chancing to be in Company with Mr. *T.* the rejected Lover, whom I mentioned in the beginning of my Letter, I told him the whole Story of his Angel, not queſtioning but he would feel on this Occaſion, the uſual Pleaſure of a reſenting Lover, when he hears that Fortune has avenged him of the Cruelty of his Miſtreſs. As I was recounting to him at large theſe ſeveral Particulars, I obſerved that he covered his Face with his Hand, and that his Breaſt heaved as tho' it wou'd have burſted, which I took at firſt to have been a Fit of Laughter; but upon lifting up his Head I ſaw his Eyes all red with Weeping. He forced a Smile at the end of my Story, and we parted.

About a Fortnight after I received from him the following Letter.

Dear Sir,

"I Am infinitely obliged to you for bringing me "News of my Angel. I have ſince married "her, and think the low Circumſtances ſhe was "reduced to a piece of good Luck to both of us, "ſince it has quite removed that little Pride and Va"nity, which was the only part of her Character "that I diſliked, and given me an Opportunity of "ſhowing her the conſtant and ſincere Affection, "which I profeſſed to her in the time of her Proſperity.

Yours,

R. T.

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For the Good of the Publick.

Whereas ſeveral Ladies, Gentlewomen, and others of that Sex, in this Kingdom, have contracted an evil Habit of Body, wherein the vicious Humours, at firſt diſperſed thro' the Whole, come at length to be lodg'd in one Part or another, and many times, for Cauſes too long here to be mentioned, are thrown down upon the Womb, occaſioning a dangerous Weakneſs in that Part, which being neglected, at laſt turns cancerous, and often proves fatal; This is to acquaint all ſuch as may have Occaſion, that a certain and ſpeedy Relief is to be had from an experienced Midwife, living now at the Goldſmith's over-againſt Exeter-Exchange in the Strand, who lately performed a wonderful Cure upon a Lady at the Bath, after ſhe was given over by Phyſicians; and has cured ſeveral other Perſons ſince ſhe came from the Bath within the City and Suburbs of London.

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LONDON. Printed for *J. Tonſon* in the *Strand*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in. 1713.